

Middlesex Recreation Commission
1200 Mountain Avenue, Middlesex, NJ 08846
Commission Meeting Minutes for June 8, 2015

Chair Sherley Penrose opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Commission members present:

Cassius Kennick
Bob May
Sherley Penrose
Rich Rutkowski
Lileen Schwarz
Rich Tarbous

Members Absent:

Glenn Dickey

Also present:

Dina Fornataro-Healey, Recreation Director
Mike Girvan, Assist. Recreation Director
Steve Greco, Council Liaison

Cassius Kennick made a motion to accept May 2015 minutes with a second by Rich Rutkowski and approved by all members present.

Public Session:

No one present

Directors Report

- Artstechsolutions Theatre Camp will run August 3rd-7th. Forms will be e-blasted.
- Ball-U-Man Basketball Clinics ended on May 14th with 8 children.
- Tennis will be using US Sports Institute for a First Play program at Mt. View from April 13th – June 1st for kids ages 3-14 and also adults. There are different time slots for different age groups. We will also host a tennis tournament on June 20th and June 21st.
- Toddler spring session ended on May 14th. The summer Happy Camper Club program sold out all 6 weeks.
- PonyShare summer camp will run from July 13th-July 17th at Mt. View Park. Forms will be distributed through the schools June 4th or 5th.
- Baseball/Softball Photo Day was held on May 16th. There are 97 children registered. Also, equipment return will be held on June 20th between 1-2pm.
- Buddy Ball basketball program will run through June 6th in the Mauger Old Gym and there are 10 children registered. The cheerleading buddy ball program has 4 children registered.
- Soccer registration forms will be delivered to the schools June 4th or 5th.

- Men's Softball has six teams and paid. There have been no problems thus far.
- Movie Night in the Park is scheduled for July 10th and August 7th.
- MountainView Park's new entryway sign was ordered and received. The old sign was lost during Super Storm Sandy. DPW will install as soon as possible. The capital request for a new double sided information center and a new map holder was not approved. The old ones are located outside the tot playground across from the baseball field. The map has significantly changed and the new information center can hold the ordinances as well as other information. The adaptive swing was ordered and should be shipped around June 2nd.
- Summer Playground deadline to register is June 3rd. There are 45 registered at Mt. View Park location and 26 for the Watchung location. Staff orientation is June 14th.
- Yoga current session is running from April 27th-June 8th with 9 participants.

Councilmatic report -

1. Council member Greco stated that Recreation will not get a separate statement for Trust Accounts. Issue is considered resolved and closed.
2. Recreation Director to go through old files so auditor can determine exact amount of Trust money available.
3. Council member Greco stated it was explained to him that additional help for Recreation is a budgetary concern. For example, if Recreation programs increase than additional help will increase too.

Trust Account and Account details report

Motion to accept made by Rich Rutkowski pending the auditors' approval and seconded by Cassius Kennick. Roll call was taken with all Commissioners approving.

Commission Committee reports - No reports

Board of Education Report - No representative

Correspondence –

1. On June 2nd our Recreation Director received an email from a resident requesting a \$25 credit for Toddler Fun Time classes she wasn't able to attend in November 2014 due to custody issue with the child. Motion was made by Rich Rutkowski and seconded by Rich Tarbous to credit this resident \$25 for Toddler Fun Time classes she wasn't able to attend in November 2014.

Volunteer nomination –

The Director would like to nominate Alaina Chemey as an outstanding volunteer. Alaina has run the Buddy Ball program with volunteers. The request to accept the nomination of Alaina Chemey as an outstanding volunteer was approved by the Commission. Director will notify Alaina to come to next Recreation meeting to receive her certificate.

New Business – None

Old Business

1. Consideration has been asked to create soccer and basketball programs for high school students who wish to play while not on the high school teams. The fact is if Recreation is to expand and have more programs, such as this one for high school age residents, then additional full time help is required. Councilman Greco will advise the Mayor and Council about the need for more help
2. Council member Greco will follow up on a request to install a gate that can accommodate people with disabilities who wish to use the tennis or basketball courts. At this time the only way to access these areas is from either side of the courts by way of steps. Suggestion is to have it installed next to the existing large gates right of the parking lot.
3. Council member Greco announced Fireworks are scheduled for July 18, 2015. Commission member Penrose asked if it would be possible to have them at the conclusion of National Night Out on August 4th when the residents are already in the park. Council member Greco said he would present this request.
4. A request was made for playground/park equipment for handicapped children. Our Recreation Director stated she has already been working on this and getting quotes for ADA swings to be installed in Mt. View Park. Her ultimate goal is to have an area with stand alone equipment and a sensory garden. The ADA swing was installed on June 4th.
5. MountainView Park's new entryway sign was ordered and received. The old sign was lost during Super Storm Sandy. DPW will install as soon as possible. The capital request for a new double sided information center and a new map holder was not approved. The Director requested the purchase of the double sided information center and a new map holder come from the overage in the Trust Account. The purchase and freight cost is around \$3,000. Motion was made by Cassius Kennick seconded by Rich Rutkowski to approve the purchase of the double sided information center and new map holder from the overage in the Trust Account. Roll call was taken with all Commissioners approving.

Seeing no other old or new business, Commissioner Penrose read a statement advising residents that the approved minutes will be available on the Borough Website within three working days of the meeting and the agenda for the next meeting will be posted on the Recreation Bulletin Board no later than 48 hours prior to the monthly meeting.

At 8:00 p.m., Commissioner Rich Rutkowski made a motion to adjourn seconded by Commissioner Cassius Kennick.

Next Recreation Commission meeting will be July 13th, 2015, 7:30 pm at the Recreation Center.

Minutes submitted by
Linda Chicarelli, Rec-Commission Secretary